

Salamanca, August 9, 2020

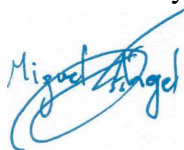
Dear Prof. Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi, Inaugural Director of the Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Institute of Iranian Studies,

I personally know the doctoral student John Theodore Good since September 2017 and can therefore write this reference letter based on direct observations. During the course 2017–2018, we regularly met at the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations of the University of Toronto to read and comment Pahlavi texts he was interested in for his research, and we have been in contact since then. As a result, he chose me as the co-supervisor of his PhD dissertation, together with my colleague Prof. Enrico Raffaelli.

The academic results of John Theodore Good have been outstanding so far, mainly due to his enormous scientific interest, motivation, curiosity, and sharp critical thinking, which lead him to investigate several possible solutions to sometimes complex problems. He also has a solid knowledge in several ancient and modern languages, and in ancient and modern religions, especially in Zoroastrianism. His very innovative PhD dissertation on Zoroastrian philosophy, which he plans to defend in the spring of 2023, will definitely open new areas of research in diverse fields, particularly in Zoroastrianism and Islamic philosophy, and will consolidate this young researcher as a reference in Zoroastrian philosophical texts, in which promising projects may flourish in the next years.

Finally, I want to underline his ethical values and honesty, and his continuous desire for improvement, which will make him, with no doubt, an excellent candidate I am glad to recommend for the Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Dissertation Completion Fellowships for 2022-23.

Yours cordially,



Prof. Miguel Ángel Andrés-Toledo